FISCAL NOTE

HB 2495 - SB 2471

February 8, 2006

SUMMARY OF BILL:

- Requires all meetings of any governing body to be open to the public at all times and defines a list of exceptions to such rule.
- Broadens the definition of "governing body" and "meeting".
- Requires members of the governing body to vote by roll call in public to determine whether a meeting shall be closed.
- Creates private right of action for violation of open meeting requirements.
- Imposes civil penalties against any member of a governing body found in violation of this act.
- Creates five-year sunset for exemptions to this act.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures - Not Significant

Assumptions:

- The implementation of this legislation will not require additional resources.
- Some increase in cases in the court system, which will result in additional state and local government expenditures for processing the cases and additional state and local government revenues from fees, taxes, and costs collected. However, such increases will not be significant.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

James W. White, Executive Director